

Message Text

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54

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07 PRS-01 CPR-02 DRC-01

/098 W

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R 280948Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9921

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PO

SUBJ: APPOINTMENT NEW PORTUGUESE UN AMBASSADOR IMMINENT

1. DR. VICTOR CRESPO, PRESIDENT OF PORTUGUESE INSTITUTE OF HIGHER CULTURE, HAS TOLD EMBOFF THAT FORMER LIBERAL EDUCATION MINISTER IN CAETANO REGIME, DR. VEIGA SIMAO, WILL SOON BE APPOINTED NEXT PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR TO UN. (ONLY OTHER CANDIDATE WHO HAS BEEN RUMORED FOR THIS POSITION IS JORGE SAMPAIO WHO APPARENTLY HAD DECIDED TO REMAIN IN PORTUGAL TO PURSUE A POLITICAL CAREER). SPINOLA REPORTEDLY HAS ASKED VEIGA SIMAO TO "COORDINATE PORTUGUESE ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES". HE WILL REPORT DIRECTLY TO PRESIDENT SPINOLA AND WILL BE SENIOR TO AMBASSADOR THEMIDO.

2. COMMENT: IF VEIGA SIMAO IS IN FACT APPOINTED PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR TO THE UN, HE WILL BE THE FIRST FORMER MINISTER UNDER THE CAETANO REGIME TO BE GIVEN A HIGH PUBLIC POSITION BY SPINOLA. VEIGA SIMAO WAS PREVIOUSLY SLATED FOR BOTH A CABINET POSITION IN THE

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NEW GOVERNMENT AND MEMBERSHIP ON THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

HOWEVER SPINOLA APPARENTLY CHANGED HIS MIND AS A RESULT
OF PRESSURE PUT ON HIM BY THE LEFT, WHICH HAS CRITICIZED
SIMAO FOR AMONG OTHER THINGS ACCEPTING A GOP FELLOWSHIP
SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DISMISSAL AS EDUCATION MINISTER. HIS
APPOINTMENT TO THE UN, IF TRUE, WILL BE CONDEMNED BY THE
LEFT BUT APPLAUDED BY THOSE WHO LIKE EMBASSY FEEL SIMAO
WOULD DO AN EXCELLENT JOB FOR GOP IN UN.
SCOTT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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